

1308.7 - Inform NT, Jun 2010

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/06/2010

Summary

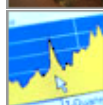
Contents

CONTENTS



Message from the NT Regional Director

Includes: NatStats 2010 Conference



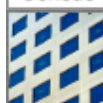
Latest Statistics

Includes: NT Summary Statistics ~ Housing Costs for Territorians on a par with other Australians ~ Darwin Saves on Steak ~ And Here's More on Steak ~ NT's Top Crops – Hay, Melons and Mangoes ~ Bakewell the Densest Place in the NT ~ More Territorians Go Online ~ Plenty of Room in the Build-up ~ Taxation Revenue Continues to Rise ~ Selected Publication Release Dates



2011 Census

Includes: Planning for Success ~ Census Nature and Content



Developments in ABS Statistics

Includes: Guide for Using Statistics for Evidence Based Policy ~ Data Quality Online Tool for COAG Performance Indicators ~ Geography Web Portal ~ New ABS Resources for Teachers ~ Online Video Tutorials ~ Improved National Regional Profile ~ NatStats 2010 Conference ~ Registrations Now Open



Contacts

Includes: ABS Training Courses ~ ABS National Information and Referral Service (NIRS) ~ Call for Contributions and Feedback

In this issue

IN THIS ISSUE

Inform NT (cat. no. 1308.7) is a quarterly newsletter produced by the Northern Territory (NT) Office of the ABS. It provides information about statistical developments, activities and products relating to the NT. Inform NT is designed to raise awareness of ABS products and services and to assist researchers, policy makers, service providers and others with an interest in the NT.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)

September 2010

December 2010

March 2011

Release Date

22 September 2010

21 December 2010

23 March 2011

INQUIRIES

For further information about this publication and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Message from the NT Regional Director



MESSAGE FROM THE NT REGIONAL DIRECTOR

NATSTATS 2010 CONFERENCE

Following the success of the inaugural NatStats Conference held in Melbourne in 2008, the ABS is hosting another NatStats Conference in Sydney on 15–17 September 2010.

The theme for NatStats 2010 is "Measuring what counts: economic development, wellbeing and progress in 21st century Australia", which will explore drivers of economic and related social change that are shaping Australia's future development.

There is an impressive line up of speakers for the Conference including Dr Ken Henry AC (Secretary, Department of the Treasury), Dr Philip Lowe (Assistant Governor, Reserve Bank of Australia), Mr Paul McClintock AO (Chairman, COAG Reform Council) and Prof Paul Cheung (Director, Statistics Division, United Nations).

I hope that some of you who are involved in policy and decision-making are able to attend and contribute your ideas for improving the Australian statistical system for the future. For more information about the Conference, including information on how to register, please refer to the NatStats 2010 Conference article in the Developments in ABS Statistics section of this newsletter.

Tom Joseph

Regional Director

2011 Census



2011 CENSUS

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

The 16th Census of Population and Housing will take place on 9 August 2011 and a lot of planning goes into making it a success. ABS staff have been working diligently behind the scenes designing urban and remote area census collector workloads, as well as developing strategies to ensure specific population groups such as travellers, the homeless, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, ethnic groups and occupants of secure apartment buildings are counted accurately.

Over the next couple of months the ABS will be introducing a new role of Local Engagement Manager in selected areas. Local Engagement Managers will work closely with communities and towns in gathering information to help the ABS locate people on census night. The aim is to identify and plan for potential issues that may impede everyone being counted, particularly in remote areas. The ABS is also continuing to meet with agencies from all levels of government, non-government organisations and the general community to promote and raise awareness of the

upcoming Census.

Having good quality field staff is paramount to the success of the Census. A gradual build up of staff will begin with the recruitment of District Managers in September 2010, followed by Area Supervisors in February 2011 and then Census Collectors in April 2011. If you are interested in undertaking one of these roles, or know of someone who would be interested, check the Careers page on the ABS website or your local newspaper around these times for details on how to apply.

For more information about or to be part of the planning for the 2011 Census, please see the brochure 2011 Census of Population and Housing Local & Regional Engagement Strategy (cat. no. 2911.0.55.001) or contact the NT Census Engagement Manager on (08) 8943 2188.

CENSUS NATURE AND CONTENT

The publication Census of Population and Housing: Nature and Content, 2011 (cat. no. 2008.0) was released in November 2009. This publication outlines the content of the 2011 Census and the procedures to be followed in collecting, processing and releasing the data.

Contacts



CONTACTS

ABS NATIONAL INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE (NIRS)

NIRS is the first point of contact for all your statistical and publication enquiries.

Telephone: 1300 135 070

Email: client.services@abs.gov.au

ABS TRAINING COURSES

The ABS offers a variety of training courses for people who wish to develop their statistical skills. ABS training courses aim to equip participants with a range of statistical tools and techniques with which to analyse data, understand principles and methodologies of statistical collections, and provide practical skills in statistical analysis to help make quality informed decisions.

Details of all training courses can be found on the ABS Training webpage on the ABS website. If you have any queries or wish to register your interest in attending any of the courses on offer, please call 08 8943 2100 or email nt.statistics@abs.gov.au.

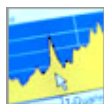
CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AND FEEDBACK

Inform NT is a quarterly newsletter produced by the ABS NT Office designed to promote statistical developments relevant to the NT. If there is something you would like to see included in future issues or if you know of something that would be of interest to Inform NT readers, please let us know.

Likewise, we would like to hear from you if you have any feedback on the content of the newsletter or suggestions for how it may be improved.

Contributions and feedback can be directed to the Client and Statistical Services Branch of the ABS NT Office, phone 08 8943 2105 or email nt.statistics@abs.gov.au.

Latest Statistics



LATEST STATISTICS

On this page:

[NT Summary Statistics](#)

[Housing Costs for Territorians on a par with other Australians](#)

[Darwin Saves on Steak](#)

[And Here's More on Steak](#)

[NT's Top Crops – Hay, Melons and Mangoes](#)

[Bakewell the Densest Place in the NT](#)

[More Territorians Go Online](#)

[Plenty of Room in the Build-up](#)

[Taxation Revenue Continues to Rise](#)

[Selected Publication Release Dates](#)

NT SUMMARY STATISTICS

Cat. no.	Selected data	Unit	NT	Aust.
3101.0	Estimated resident population (preliminary), 30 Sep 2009	'000	227.0	22 065.7
6202.0	Total persons employed (trend), May 2010	'000	122.2	11 044.6
6202.0	Total persons unemployed (trend), May 2010	'000	3.7	610.4
6202.0	Unemployment rate (trend), May 2010	%	2.9	5.2
6202.0	Unemployment rate (trend), Apr 2010	%	3.0	5.3
6202.0	Civilian population aged 15 years and over(a), May 2010	'000	170.7	17 910.4
8731.0	Total dwelling units approved, % change from previous month (trend), Apr 2010	%	-1.1	–
8731.0	Total dwelling units approved, % change from previous month (trend), Mar 2010	%	-4.7	0.4
6401.0	Consumer Price Index (CPI), % change Mar Qtr 2009 to Mar Qtr 2010	%	3.5(b)	2.9(c)
6401.0	Consumer Price Index (CPI), % change Dec Qtr 2009 to Mar Qtr 2010	%	0.5(b)	0.9(c)

(a) See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), Explanatory Notes para 10.

(b) Darwin.

(c) Weighted average of eight capital cities.

– nil or rounded to zero

For further statistics about the NT see Regional Statistics, Northern Territory (cat. no. 1362.7).

HOUSING COSTS FOR TERRITORIANS ON A PAR WITH OTHER AUSTRALIANS

NT households that owned their home outright spent a similar proportion of their gross income on housing costs as the rest of the nation in 2007-08, according to the feature article 'Housing costs for Northern Territorians on a par with other Australians', in the latest issue of Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, May 2010 (cat. no. 1362.7). NT households that owned their home outright spent about 2% of their gross income on housing costs, while households that were paying off a mortgage or renting spent about 16%. This issue also added data on economic activity, including building activity, public housing, imports and exports, to the wide range of statistics about the NT

and its regions already released in previous issues.

DARWIN SAVES ON STEAK

Darwin's T-bone and chuck steaks (1kg) were the cheapest of any capital city for March Qtr 2010. Whole fresh chicken (1kg) and low alcohol beer (per 285ml glass) were also cheapest in Darwin. However, that's where the savings end as Darwin recorded the highest average retail price for 28 of 51 selected items including fresh fruit and vegetables, milk and bread.

Further information can be found in Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities, Mar 2010 (cat. no. 6403.0.55.001).

AND HERE'S MORE ON STEAK

Approximately 90 tonnes of red meat was produced in the NT in March 2010. Of this, 85 tonnes was beef, produced from the slaughter of 400 cattle, and 4 tonnes was veal, produced from the slaughter of 100 calves.

Further information can be found in Livestock and Meat, Australia, Mar 2010 (cat. no. 7218.0.55.001).

NT'S TOP CROPS – HAY, MELONS AND MANGOES

Almost 90% (48 million hectares (ha)) of the NT's estimated 54 million ha area of holding was allocated to grazing in 2008–09. By far the largest grazing stock was meat cattle at almost 1.7 million head of cattle. The area of holding for crops was close to 14,000 ha with some of the larger crop productions being almost 38,000 tonnes of hay, nearly 22,000 tonnes of melons and over 10,000 tonnes of mangoes.

Further information can be found in Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 2008–09 (cat. no. 7121.0).

BAKEWELL THE DENSEST PLACE IN THE NT

The Statistical Local Area of Bakewell had the highest population density in the NT at 30 June 2009, with an estimated 2,800 people per square kilometre, closely followed by Nightcliff and Wagaman each with 2,700 people per square kilometre.

The NT's population was estimated to be 225,900 people at 30 June 2009, an increase of 2.5% over the preceding 12 months. The SLA with the largest increase was Palmerston (C) Bal (which includes the suburbs of Farrar, Marlow Lagoon and Rosebery) which grew by 575 people or 13.7%.

Further information can be found in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 3218.0).

MORE TERRITORIANS GO ONLINE

Internet access in the Territory continues to grow with 94,000 subscriptions to Internet Service Providers at December 2009. The number of internet access subscriptions has increased by 36% since December 2008 and 96% since December 2007.

Further information can be found in Internet Activity, Australia, Dec 2009 (cat. no. 8153.0).

PLENTY OF ROOM IN THE BUILD-UP

Hotels, motels and serviced apartments in the NT recorded nearly 300,000 guest arrivals in the Dec Qtr 2009, taking almost \$56 million. The average length of stay was 2.2 days and the average room occupancy rate was 58%. The Tourist Region with the highest average room occupancy rate was Darwin at 63%, followed by Alice Springs (60%), Katherine Daly (52%) and Kakadu Arnhem (40%).

Further information can be found in Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Northern Territory, Dec 2009 (cat. no. 8635.7.55.001).

TAXATION REVENUE CONTINUES TO RISE

Territorians paid \$479 million in NT and Local Government taxes in 2008–09, an increase of \$17 million on the previous financial year. The largest taxation revenue areas were \$151 million from employers payroll taxes and \$110 million from financial and capital transactions taxes.

Further information can be found in Taxation Revenue, Australia, 2008–09 (cat. no. 5506.0).

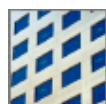
SELECTED PUBLICATION RELEASE DATES

Below is a list of selected publication releases containing NT data for the next three months. Publications with more than one issue due to be released during the period are listed only once. Please note some release dates may change after the publication of this newsletter. For all publication release dates please refer to the ABS Release Calendar.

Release Publication date	Cat. no.
Social	
18 Aug Cultural Funding by Government, Australia, 2008–09	4183.0
27 Aug Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, Aug 2010	1362.7
20 Sep Internet Activity, Australia, Jun 2010	8153.0
Demography	
29 Jun Australian Demographic Statistics, Dec 2009	3101.0
6 Jul Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, May 2010	3401.0
29 Jul Migration, Australia, 2008–09	3412.0
5 Aug Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2009	3235.0
30 Aug Marriages and Divorces, Australia, 2009	3310.0
16 Sep Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), Jul 2010	1216.0
Economy	
1 Jul Job Vacancies, Australia, May 2010	6354.0
1 Jul Retail Trade, Australia, May 2010	8501.0
1 Jul Building Approvals, Australia, May 2010	8731.0
6 Jul International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia, May 2010	5368.0
7 Jul Livestock and Meat, Australia, May 2010	7218.0.55.001
7 Jul Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Northern Territory, Mar 2010	8635.7.55.001
8 Jul Labour Force, Australia, Jun 2010	6202.0

12 Jul	Housing Finance, Australia, May 2010	5609.0
13 Jul	Lending Finance, Australia, May 2010	5671.0
14 Jul	Building Activity, Australia, Mar 2010	8752.0
15 Jul	Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, Jun 2010	9314.0
28 Jul	Consumer Price Index, Australia, Jun 2010	6401.0
4 Aug	Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities, Jun 2010	6403.0.55.001
4 Aug	House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities, Jun 2010	6416.0
18 Aug	Labour Price Index, Australia, Jun 2010	6345.0
19 Aug	Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, May 2010	6302.0
31 Aug	Government Finance Statistics, Australia, Jun Qtr 2010	5519.0.55.001
1 Sep	Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, Jun 2010	5206.0
2 Sep	Industrial Disputes, Australia, Jun 2010	6321.0.55.001
8 Sep	Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, Jun 2010	8412.0

Developments in ABS Statistics



DEVELOPMENTS IN ABS STATISTICS

On this page:

[Guide for Using Statistics for Evidence Based Policy](#)
[Data Quality Online Tool for COAG Performance Indicators](#)
[Geography Web Portal](#)
[New ABS Resources for Teachers – Online Video Tutorials](#)
[Improved National Regional Profile](#)
[NatStats 2010 Conference – Registrations Now Open](#)

GUIDE FOR USING STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE BASED POLICY

Do you develop or evaluate policies? If so, you may find the ABS' new Guide for Using Statistics for Evidence Based Policy a helpful resource. As part of the Understanding Statistics suite of webpages, the guide provides useful information about how statistics can be used to make informed policy decisions, and includes information on:

- what constitutes evidence based decision making
- how good statistics can enhance the decision making process
- using statistics for making evidence based decisions
- understanding statistical concepts and terminology
- analysing, interpreting and evaluating statistical information
- communicating statistical findings
- evaluating outcomes of policy decisions.

DATA QUALITY ONLINE TOOL FOR COAG PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Data Quality Online is a new web tool that provides tailored guidance on preparing data quality statements for Council of Australian Governments (COAG) performance indicators within the National Reporting Framework. The tool guides users through the ABS' Data Quality Framework using a range of questions to assess the quality of their information. The answers are then used to automatically generate a draft data quality statement, which can then be saved as a PDF or .xml file and further refined outside the system. Data quality statements enable people who use statistical data to assess the data's fitness for purpose and better communicate the key

characteristics of the data which impact on quality to their target audience.

The Data Quality Online tool is expected to be expanded to include guidance on preparing data quality statements for other data sources by mid 2010.

GEOGRAPHY WEB PORTAL

A new geography web portal has been released on the ABS website. It provides easy access to information on geography publications, classifications and digital boundaries, as well as answers to frequently asked geography questions. It also includes sections on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) and its replacement, the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), which will become effective from July 2011.

NEW ABS RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS – ONLINE VIDEO TUTORIALS

The ABS has created a range of online video tutorials designed to help teachers find data on the ABS website and introduce key ABS products that may be of interest to themselves and their students. There are tutorials on:

- census related information including community profiles, MapStats and QuickStats
- commerce and economic related information including Key National Indicators, National Accounts and the Consumer Price Index
- products of likely interest to teachers including Australian Social Trends, Measure of Australia's Progress and Year Book Australia.

IMPROVED NATIONAL REGIONAL PROFILE

Looking for data for your region? The latest National Regional Profile (NRP) has been released on the ABS website. It contains ABS and non-ABS data for over 2,000 regions across Australia, with up to five years of data available. The data is presented on common boundaries, making it easy to compare over time.

Available regions range from the smaller geographic areas such as Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) and Local Government Areas (LGAs), up to state/territory and Australia. Some of the data in the NRP is not released at such small levels anywhere else on the ABS website.

The latest release of the NRP includes a very new look to the entry page, which uses an interactive map and list to find your region of interest. There is also a new set of short videos to help you use the NRP.

NATSTATS 2010 CONFERENCE – REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN



NatStats 2010 Conference

15-17 September 2010 Darling Harbour Sydney

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is pleased to announce that registrations are now open for the NatStats 2010 Conference.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics, through its initiative, the National Statistical Service, aims to improve the use and understanding of statistics for Australians.

NatStats 2010 will be held from 15–17 September 2010 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour. The conference aims to build on the enthusiasm generated by the inaugural NatStats conference held in 2008.

The overall theme for the conference is "Measuring what counts: economic development, wellbeing and progress in 21st century Australia", which will explore drivers of economic and related social change that are shaping Australia's progress. Conference speakers will highlight the importance of statistics in understanding and responding to these challenges.

As a participant in the NatStats 2010 Conference, you will have the opportunity to contribute your ideas for improving the Australian statistical system for the future.

Dr Ken Henry AC, Secretary to the Commonwealth Treasury, will deliver the opening plenary address at the Conference and the Hon Dr Geoff Gallop AC, Director of the Graduate School of Government at the University of Sydney, will deliver a presentation focused around improving the wellbeing of Australians.

Prof Paul Cheung, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division, will also be speaking as part of a detailed panel discussion titled, "Measuring progress: from theory to practice", alongside Dr David Gruen, Director of the Macro-Economic Group at the Treasury.

Other NatStats 2010 speakers include Ms Jane Halton PSM, Secretary of the Department of Health and Ageing who will speak on the role of statistics in health; and Mr Paul McClintock AO, Chairman of the COAG Reform Council, who will be speaking about the measurement of disadvantage, inequality, and social inclusion. In addition, Ms Martine Durand, Chief Statistician and Director of the OECD Statistics Directorate, and Mr Phil Lowe, Assistant Governor (Economic) of the Reserve Bank of Australia, will together examine some of the changes we can expect to witness in the global economy and the implication for Australia.

For a full list of confirmed speakers, program and registration information, please visit the NatStats Conference website or email natstats@nss.gov.au.

About this Release

Inform NT is a newsletter produced by the Northern Territory office of the ABS. It provides information about new developments, publications, seminars, training and reviews.